FURTHER FOREIGN NEWS.

By the steamer Fulton we have London and Liverpool papers to the 18th ultimo. We make up the following

GREAT BUTAIN.—Parliament is summoned by proclamation to assemble on Thursday, the 3d of December 2015

lt is announced that the British government has con-cluded an agreement with the Austrian sutherrities that, if the latter will lay down a submarine telegraph line be-tween Ragusa and Alexandria, the English government will use that and no other in its communications with India, and will complete the telegraph from Suez to Kur-rachec or Bombay. The London Times denounces the bargain.

Parliament was not expected to be in session for more than about a fortnight. According to rumor there were other causes than the banking difficulty to induce gov-erament to call Parliament together. The honors to be conferred on the Indian generals are

The honors to be conferred on the Indian generals are officially recorded in the London Gazette. Sir John Lawrence is appointed Kinght Grand Cross of the Bath; Generol Havelock, Knight Commander of the Bath; Generol Havelock, Knight Commander of the Bath; and Generals Wilson, Van Courtlandt, and Chamberlain, Companions of the Bath.

There had been some rioting among the weavers at Lurgan, Ireland, in consequence of their having been placed on half time. They attacked the factory and residence of their employer, and several persons were wounded. The police succeeded in restoring quiet.

Another despatch says that the riot was occasioned by the introduction of machinery into the factory, and that the police fired upon the mob with fatal effect.

The London Times of the 18th says Since the first fallure vague rumors have always been flying about that this maritime town-ship was to be launched in a private and off-hand manner. Within the

last few days these reports have assumed such a circum-stantial consistency, and named not only the day but even the hour at which the operation was to be commenced, that the suspicious of the most incredulous were gradually overcome. Yesterday was the day thus arbi-trarily fixed, and yesterday accordingly witnessed the dis-appointment of many hundreds, and even thousands, of

e would-be sight-seers.

Now, it is not in our power to inform our readers when Now, it is not in our power or in the launch, or the next attempt at it, will really take place, but we can at least tell what perhaps may save the public such a fruitless journey to Millwall as that of yesterday. Our readers, then, may implicitly depend upon it that the time fixed for the launch will be kept a upon it that the time used for the launch will be kept a strict and most profound secret—that no persons, no matter what their influence, or even connexion with the company may be, will be admitted to the yard on that occasion, and that the first which the general public is likely to hear of it at all is that the vessel is at last affoat, or that another attempt has been made to move her with out success. It is no exaggeration to say that every pos sible precaution is being taken to keep the time which will be appointed for this next attempt a real secret, and even the workmen employed in the yard will not know when it is to take place till they actually begin to push

when it is to take place till they actually begin to push the gigantic vessel down the "ways."

Any of our readers who were present at the first attempt on the 2d of this month will see the imperative accessity for this secrecy being observed. On that occasion the yard was thronged with visitors, who were constantly getting into danger and always getting into the way. It was then ascertained, when too late, that beyond doubt a great error had been committed in admitting any person at all; while, in consequence of the publicity which the event had obtained, the river was so thronged with steamers, crowded down to the water's edge, and halting right in the track which the vessel must have taken had she silvened off the ways, that it would have taken had she slipped off the ways, that it would have been nothing short of downright manslaughter to launch her under such circumstances. To get rid of all these difficulties, and most especially the last named, it has been decided, as we have said, to keep the whole matter scoret in the strictest sense of the term. All the preparations for making the next attempt are ready, and the matter now rests with Mr. Brunel. Directly be ceives that the time and tide have come, the effor move the ship will be made at a single hour's notice. may mention, however, that it will not be long delayed, for it cannot be concealed that the launching ways have yielded, and may yield still more under the tremendous weight which bears upon them, and that every week she remains in her present position greatly increa-ficulty of moving her at all.

THE ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH CABLE.

PLYMOUTH, Nov. 14.—The North of Europe Steam Company's packet Leipsic, Capt. Rivers, which has been employed in recovering the submerged cable, arrived here this morning and proceeded to Keyham yard. The operation was commenced by Mr. Bright, the engineer, on the 22d uit. The heavy inshore cable was under run the part of the station at Velencia on a catamara, formed of a from the station at Valencia on a catamaran, formed of timber framing bearing a saddle fixed between two long iron buoys; this was towed by the steamer. At a distance of five niles, which was attained on the 31st of October, the gales having interfered with the work, the bearings were taken, and the wire was attached to three chain cables, fitted with a buoy, at a short distance part for connexion with the ocean line to be lad year apart, for connexion with the ocean line to be laid next spring, when operations will recommence. On Thursday, the 5th instant, after the wind had abated, the steamer went 10 miles out, grappled the light cable, and commenced hauling in, with the aid of a small engine of deck, which was calculated, with the machinery attached deck, which was calculated, with the machinery attached, to draw about 2 miles per hour in fine weather, and a mile and a quarter when there was much sea on. About 53 miles of the ocean wire—and the remainder of the inshore cable about five miles—were thus recovered. At a quarter past 4 o'clock on Friday, the 6th inst., when a heavy swell and sea prevailed, the wire parted. The bottom there was rocky, and it is not improbable that the wire, which is capable of bearing a strain of four tons, was broken by the uneven character of the ground. The recovery of the er will

small steamer will be sent to meet the Agamemnon, and to assist in making the splice with the shore end. It is very satisfactory to know that the submerged wire bears no appearance of injury, and the whole of the re-covered cable can be used again. There is, of course, a little rust on the 12 wires which protect the inshore cable, but on rubbing with the finger they become bright again; none of the gutta percha coatings are disturbed, and the tarring of the wire seems to have stood exceed-

ingly well.

The telegraphic cable in the Agamemnon is passing at the rate of about a mile per hour from her hold to the categories of tar, pitch, lintanks. It goes through a composition of tar, pitch, lin-seed oil, and beeswax, and is coiled in circles so compact as to prevent the admission of air. About 250 miles are

France.—M. De Royer, procureur general of the court of Cassation, was to be appointed Minister of Justice, vice M. Abbatucci, deceased. It is believed that the convocation of the legislative

corps for the 28th November is a mere matter of form, and that nothing more will be done than taking the oaths and the verification of powers. The session for the despatch of business will probably commence in January, at which period the Senate is also to be con-

The Paris correspondent of the London Post says that several Parisian firms are reported to have convoked their most important creditors to concur with them in the necessary means to prevent a public failure, and proba-

necessary means to prevent a public failure, and proba-bly to come to a provisional suspension of payment. This means of staving off difficulties will, the writer thinks, be generally accepted in France.

The increase of the rate of discount by the Bank of France is said to have caused considerable embarrasament, but no failures of moment were apprehended. Several chambers of commerce were understood to be preparing addresses to the Emperor, in order to explain to him the situation of affairs. The distress in the manufacturing districts was very great. districts was very great.

SPAIN.—Madrid papers of the 11th November report an traordinary fall in the price of grain in all the Spanish

narkets.

It is said that the Bank of Spain was preparing to issue cank notes of the value of 100 reals.

A letter from Madrid announces the discovery of a conspiracy among the abolitionist party in Catalonia. Several of the principals engaged in it are supposed to

The directors of the Bank of Spain had, after delibera

INDIA.—The English papers contain voluminous correspondence from India, but, as usual, all the important facts have been anticipated by telegraph. Full details of the capture of Delhi and the relief of Lucknow are given. At the former it is stated that the entire British force was little ever \$,000 men, less than half of whom were Europeans. The resistance they met with was most ob-stinate, and their setual loss in killed and wounded on

Havelock would have to leave a small garrison there with the women and children, and out his way back to Cawn-pore, as he was hemmed in by at least 30,000 mutineers, which of course prevented the removal of the Europeans

A postscript to the Bombay correspondence of Times says that a letter from Cawnpore of the 2d Oc states that Havelock's forces had nearly gained posse of the whole city of Lucknow; that it had been of mined to hold the town, constructing a fort to pragainst emergencies, and to send the women and chi to Cawnpore

to Campere.

The money market at Calcutta was very stringent.

Freights were low. The quotation to America was \$9 to
\$9 50 per ton, and many of the American ships were

So ber ton, and many of the American sinps were loading on owners' secount.

A large majority of the European residents at Calcutta had united in an address to the Queen, requesting the recall of the governor-general. Lord Canning, to whom they attribute in strong terms the calamities which have befallen India.

(Correspondence of the Lordon Times.)

THE REBELLION AT AN END !- GENERAL HAVELOCK'S PO

Delhi, then, has fallen, but I would warn your reader Delhi, then, has fallen, but I would warn your readers not to believe that the revolt is therefore over. The fall of the city is important to our prestige, and may be injurious to the morale of the rebel forces, but the physical strength of the revolt is almost unimpaired. The greater number of the mutineers in Delhi must have escaped. There is no cavalry to send after them, and natives under all circumstances outmarch troops led by Europeans. The force in Delhi has been much reduced, and cannot be very speedily reinforced. The battle-field will probable transferred to Oude.

Gen. Havelock's splendid march on Lucknow saved the Europeans imprisoned there, but he is too weak-handed

Europeans imprisoned there, but he is too weak hander to effect more. It is doubtful even if he will succeed in to effect more. It is doubtful even if he will succeed in reaching Cawnpore. He is hemmed in by a force which cannot number less than 30,000 men, with all the communications in their hands, an amazing number of cannon, plenty of provisions, and the sympathy of the Mussulman population. There are no troops to send to his aid, and he designs, it is said, to leave a small garrison in Lucknow, and cut his way with the remainder back to Cawnpore. Round that station, again, the Gwallor mutineers are said to be concentrating; but this report, like most others, requires confirmation. At present they are threatening Agra.

are threatening Agra.

In truth, notwithstanding the fall of Delhi, all we can In truth, notwithstanding the ani of beini, all we also hope to do is to maintain our ground until the English reinforcements arrive. They cannot be here in force till November. They will then be transported in steamers and by immense bullock trains to Allahabad, whence strong columns, under Sir Colin Campbell, will sweep through the northwest and Oude, reconquering the provinces as if they had never been in our possession. This movement cannot be commenced till the 2d of December and till then I have not a hope of reporting the approach

oing to Shanghai.

The blockade on the Canton river was still maintained. The Hong-Kong correspondent of the London Tim

At Shanghai a difference has occurred between the American and French consuls and the foreign inspectors.
The latter refused to grant permission for the re-export of foreign rice to a port in China. The French consul has declared his intention to give the vessel taking the rice interference on the part of Chinese officials. aterference on the part of Chinese officials."

Tonnage at Hong-Kong was abundant. Tens had ad-

vanced in price at all the outposts.

The United States frigate Levant was at Hong-Kong on the 25th September, and the steamer San Jacinto at hanghai on the 16th.

LATER FROM TEXAS.

By the way of New Orleans we have Galveston dates

The Galveston Civilian reports another week of inactivty in the cotton market, so far as sales, "though the reipts and exports have gone on, if not as rapidly as usual at least to a respectable extent," the former adding up 2,203 bales, the latter 1,345. Stock on hand and on ship oard not cleared, 10,937 bales. Stock at Galveston and Houston, 15,000 bales-largest ever known at this season Estimated incoming crop, 95,000 bales.

Proceedings of the legislature are unimportant. The nate has decided in favor of one university instead of two. A bill providing for the geological survey of the State had been reported, and it was thought would become a law. The Galveston and Henderson railroad bill, having passed the senate, was set down for the 19th in the house. Mr. Kinney, of Nucces, has introduced a resolution instructing the committee on slavery to report the expediency of exempting from execution for debt one or

The joint resolution requesting their senators and intructing their representatives in Congress to urge the bassage of a law authorizing the raising of a regin Texas rangers for protection of the frontier from Indian depredations has passed. The Galveston News says:

depredations has passed. The traineston News says:

'The increasing frequency of Indian outrages upon our border population, and the inadequacy of the present military force of the United States to repel and punish the marauding savages, demand the immediate action of the government, and we trust the importance of the subject will be so apparent to the President that he will devote a portion of his first annual message to it.

The Belton Independent records further Indian lations in that vicinity. On the 11th they stole and drove away over one hundred horses. One cavallado of about eighty in number was taken from within three miles of Gatesville, the county seat. A party had started in pursuit. Mr. Lewis, son-in-law of Moses Jackson, esq., was illed on Pecan Bayou, near Camp Colorado. or men disguised as such. Others had been attacked by them, and there was a general disposition among the set-tlers to leave unless immediate assistance was sent to

The editor of the Civilian has been shown by Capt. Folof San Luis Island, two stalks of Chinese sugar cane sixteen feet long and two inches in diameter. The soil f San Luis is light and sandy like that on Galveston island.

The Houston Telegraph states that about thirty miles the Harrisburg railroad is now graded beyond Richnond, leaving about twenty more to grade to reach Columbus. The track-laying will commence next month. portion of the iron is now in Galveston.

Gen. Henderson, newly elected United States senator convalescent. The successor of the lamented General sk, he will proceed to Washington immediately. It i tated that Senator Hemphill will not resign his position s chief justice until after the next August election.

The weather in the upper counties has been cold and iny. Damage has been done to cotton throughout the

The overland mail brings intelligence that the Pime and Mericopas Indians were planning an expedition in re-taliation against the Gila Apaches for the inroad made or their villages last month. The battle then fought was the largest Indian fight which had occurred in those regions for many years.

A STEAMER IX COLLISION WITH A WHALE.—On the last trip of the steamer Columbia from Oregon an unusual number of the species of whale known as "humpback" were observed sporting in the neighborhood of Humboldt bay as only monsters of the deep can sport. The steamer, with wind and steam fair in her tail, was running at the rate of ten or twelve knots an hour, when, says a passenger, a huge whale raised to blow within half a rod of the ship's prow, its body lying at right angles with her course of sailing! Full thirty feet of the monster's back must have been exposed, and all were expecting an old-fash-

Crash, the cruel coulter passed out thro' thy cell," when Mr. Fish sank almost like lead; but not quick enough to "save his bacon," for he was not at sufficient enough to "save his bacon," for he was not at sufficient depth to be out of reach of the ship's keel. When the fish rose, the water for some distance around was crimsoned with its blood. Though with diminished forge the ship struck with great violence, turning the monster completely on its beam ends, in which position it came to the surface on the larboard side, and just in time to receive another severe "thump" from the steamer's paddle. But it was not killed, for it was seen making its way to the land some moments after. Humboldt people may look out for a supply of light.—Socramento Union.

Manufactories at the eastward are said to be steadily one after another, resuming operations, despite the hard-ness of the times. Manufacturers urge that " there never was a period in which the prospect for the successful es-tablishment of home industry was so great as at present, inasmuch as British competition is, in a great measure, prestrated by over-trading during the last few years."

VASHINGTON CITY.

The following senstor and members of Congr arrived in this city yesterday: Hon. Mesers. Philip Allen, of Rhode Island; George S. Houston, of Alsbama; William Barksdale and L. Q. C. Lamar, of interference or interference from any quarter. It gain. But, in our judgment, the codifiers have promise in Jacobs of Virginia; A. R. was incumbent on the federal executive to protect posed very great and useful improvements, alike beneficial to all and injurious to none, whether the Ready, of Tennessee; E. Joy Morris, William Montgomery, Henry M. Philips, Galusha A. Grow, John Hickman, and John R. Edie, of Penn.; Clark B. Cochrane, A. B. Olin, J. W. Sherman, Daniel E. Sickles, E. B. Morgan, and R. E. Fenton, of New York; C. B. Tompkins, of Ohio; Samuel Arnold, of Connecticut; N. Abbott, of Maine; Charles L. Scott, of California; William G. Whitely, of Delaware; John G. Da vis, of Indiana; Aaron Shaw, of Illinois; J. W. Stevenson, of Kentucky; W. D. Brayton, of Rhode Island; and Linus B. Comins, of Massachusetts.

AUTHORITATIVE PRECEDENTS.

The stress laid by some of our cotemporaries on the fact that the Kansas convention submitted only a part and not the whole constitution to the popular udgment has induced us to recur to two recent precedents, which, in the present case, are entitled to peculiar weight.

The first is a bill reported from the Committee on Territories, in the Senate, on the 17th of March, 1856, by Judge Douglas, entitled "A bill to authorize the people of the Territory of Kansas to form a constitution and State government, preparatory to their admission into the Union when they have the requisite population." This bill provided that after it should be ascertained that there was the requisite population the legislature of Kansas should be authorized to provide for the election of delegates to form a constitution, at which all white male in habitants over twenty-one years of age, and actual residents for six months, should vote. The constitution so to be made was required to be submitted to the people for ratification. The convention was left to make all the necessary provisions for submitting the constitution to the ratification or rejection of the people. This bill was not passed, and, we believe, not acted on by the Senate.

The second precedent is a bill introduced by Mr. Toombs, and which finally passed the Senate on the 2d of July, 1856. Its title was substantially the same with that of Judge Douglas. It provided for an enumeration of the inhabitants, and for this purpose required the President to appoint five comm sioners under specific regulations. After completing the enumeration as directed, those commissioners were required to have an election held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, 1856, for members of a convention to form a constitution for Kansas. The commissioners were to make all ncedful rules and regulations for holding the election. Every white male citizen over twenty-one years of age, and a bons fide inhabitant on the 4th of July, 1856, and who had been a resident three months, was entitled to vote. Stringent provisions were made to secure to every voter the free exercise of his right. The delegates elected were required to assemble on the first Monday of December, 1856. and determine whether it was expedient to form State constitution; if deemed expedient, they were to proceed to form a constitution and State government, which should be republican in its form, for admission into the Union. No provision was made for submitting the constitution to the people for ratification or rejection, in whole or in part, but the same was to be valid when made by the convention.

This bill was fully discussed in the Senate, and amendments made to secure the unbiased choice of delegates. It was passed by the united vote of the democratic senators against the persistent opposition of the black-republicans. In the House it failed to pass; but there, too, it received the approval of the democratic members. We have a right, therefore, to bring forward this case as a conclusive precedent establishing it as the judgment of the entire democratic representation in the last Congress that Kansas ought to be promptly admitted as a State, and that it is not an essential prerequisite that its constitution should be submitted for popular ratification.

bill for the purpose reported by Judge Douglas, as well as the action of Congress on the Minnesota bill, shows that the submission of a constitution for popular ratification was recognised and sanctioned by the democrats of the same Congress as a proper preliminary step when the same is ordered either by the enabling preparatory act or by the decision of the constitutional convention. The precedents taken to gether demonstrate the position that the submission of the constitution in whole or in part is not an in dispensable prerequisite, according to democratic isage, to the admission of a new State.

It will be recollected that it was in consequence of the defeat in the house by the black-republicans of the Senate bill before referred to that the legislature of Kansas passed an act providing for the doing of the same thing proposed by the Senate bill. The act so passed by the Kansas legislature was recognised as valid by President Buchanan and by Gov. Walker, and by all democrats. It is not denied that the election for delegates was fairly held according to the act of the legislature. Gov. Walker urged the free-State men to come forward and aid in forming a onstitution. They had ample assurance that they would be protected in a free exercise of the elective franchise. They resisted all his appeals and allowed the delegates to be chosen by the pro-slavery men.

In accordance with the true spirit of the Kansas et, the President recognised the delegates so elected as representing the legal majority of the people, and, herefore, as constituting a legal convention with power to frame a constitution and submit it in whole or in part, or to send it directly to Congress, as they the action of the convention be recognised as legal, gates? on what grounds they refused to vote? and discharged. If this is so, a remedy is needed. whether any of the delegates made pledges as to sub-

convention was illegal and a bogus body.

tions, and to see that the will of the majority should present laws and practice are unsettled or not, about prevail. This obligation could only be discharged by adhering to legal proceedings in the ascertainment of the will of the people. That was the clear meaning of the doctrine of popular sovereignty engrafted upon the Kansas bill. So it has been interpreted in every issue with black republicans that has arisen on Kansas affairs. When, therefore, the President recognises the action of the Kansas convention, he does so because that action is legal, and because it carries out the principle of popular sovereignty in the only way contemplated by the Kansas act—that is, by legal proceedings. He could not repudiate that action, and recommend Congress to reject the constitution, without justly subjecting himself to the charge of violating the great principle of non-intervention. In the absence of any restriction in an enabling act of ongress the people of Kansas have as clear a right to decide whether their constitution should be submitted for popular ratification, in whole or in part, as they have to decide whether slavery shall or shall not exist. They can only settle this question, however, by the legal decision of the people. If the late convention was a legal body, and its action within the scope of its legal power, it is a clear infraction of the doctrine of non-intervention to attempt to defeat the legally-expressed will of the people, upon the assumption that the whole constitution ought to have been submitted. The Kansas act declares that the people of Kansas have a full right to decide that question. They have decided it by the action of a legal convention, and the administration, in recognising that action, is faithfully carrying out the spirit and letter of the Kansas act.

THE PROPOSED DISTRICT CODE.

We give below a criticism upon an expression in recent article in the Union concerning the law, and the practice under it, in this District. We expressed the opinion that in no place in the Union were th law and practice so unsettled as here. This opinion we believe to be literally true, and had our correspondent been quite familiar with both in the several States he would probably have arrived at the same conclusion. We have the common law, not as it now stands in England or Maryland, but as it existed in both at the date of the revolution. Every lawyer knows that this system has changed since then in many particulars, and is continually changing, so that recent decisions in either do not declare the law as it exists here. Many English statutes not re-enacted in Maryland, and all the statutes of that State, "as far as applicable," are in force here. Which are and which are not applicable and in force here has always been doubtful and matter of dispute. Probably two-thirds of these statutes are inapplicable, but it would, we suspect, seriously puzzle our correspondent to tell which. Maryland had a chancellor and a chancery system, but much of the machinery of that system is inapplicable to the circuit court of this District, the jurisdiction and powers of which are matters of much controversy. Much of the criminal and penal code of Maryland, and the mode of action under it, are inapplicable in this District. The town and county regulations are almost wholly inapplicable,

Men are bound to know and obey the law, but of the two enormous quartoes containing the old Maryland statutes which were in force when they were extended over the District, no ordinary citizen and only a portion of the lawyers, can tell what portions are binding. Even the laws of Congress are but little better. What is in force and what not is vehemently disputed, as all must know who understand the matters in controversy concerning the banks and the issue of bills by unincorporated companies; able lawyers, both in and out of the District, entertaining different opinions.

dictments can be found for common-law offences, some of which are wholly unsuited to the present times, such as those for scolding and punishin women by ducking for that offence. The extent of the circuit court jurisdiction over federal officers is still an agitated question. The powers and duties of magistrates and constables are not clearly defined. To what extent tobacco is, by law, a measure ure of value, in certain cases, like holding to bail, and for certain fees of office, is not free from question. Whether, in any case, under the Maryland statutes, the President can perform certain duties that they devolved upon the executive of that State is still an open question. It is also unsettled whether the marshal of the District can perform every duty which a Maryland or English sheriff might.

There is no end to doubtful questions growing ou of the anomalous condition of the law in this District. The practice of the courts is equally uncertain, and even more difficult to learn. There is not a book of forms or a work on practice wholly applicable to the District. Some points were disposed of in Cranch's Reports, but everything else, except forty-six rules rests in recollection, and is constantly matter of dis pute. No study can find it out. Those who have been long at the bar and have memory enjoy advantages that no learning and talent can secure. A practice which does not result in a formal judgment rec ord in every case finally adjudicated may well b termed loose, if not unsettled. The same may be said where, without written direction from the party; the clerk enters appearances, pleas, demurrers, &c. It is said that when a magistrate renders a judgment deemed best. Now, the question presented is, shall in favor of a party he gives it to him on a paper. and he takes it away with him, and whenever he or shall it be repudiated as illegal? Shall the ad- wants an execution he can call upon any other maministration go back and inquire whether any, and gistrate in the District to issue it, and that there is now many, of the people refused to vote for dele- no office where the debtor can pay his debt and be

Our correspondent will learn by inquiry that both mitting the constitution which they have not re- the bar and the public desire such changes in the deemed? It is seen at once that to do these things law, and the practice under it, as will give the peowould involve the administration in the incon- ple of the District the advantage of all the improve istency of having recognised the election of del- ments made in both in the different States within the egates as regular and legal, and the body of the con- last sixty years, few of which have found their way cention as legal and valid; but because the whole here. We are for improving the law and the pracconstitution was not submitted, of instituting in- tice as far as it can be done. We do not think that quiries to ascertain the legality or illegality of the either came to perfection during the last century convention. These are the inquiries which the black any more than the implements of industry. If

eforms had ever been tolerated, we all the questions now have trials by battel and by compurgators, and women banished or hung for the supposed crime of witchcraft, and sedition laws to pun-The great principle of the Kansas bill was, that the ish men for speaking evil of dignitaries. If nothing people of Kansas should regulate their own domestic institutions in their own way. There was to be no which we differ in opinion from our correspondent: To the Editor of the Union :

which we differ in opinion from our correspondent. To the Eiter of the Union:

In your article of the 25th inst. on the new code of this District is the following: "It is probable that in no place within the Union is the law, and the practice under it, so unselled and uncertain as in this District.

This is truly startling language, and would seem to imply a state of benightment truly astonishing for those living in the capital city of the nation. Law unsettled which has been adjudicated under for fifty or a hundred years! Law uncertain which has been interpreted and sustained in the decisions of the United States Supreme Court! This is a bold charge, and would mean either that our law-makers were very obtuse men, making laws with no meaning in them, or that our courts, superior and inferior, after many years of labor and study, were so unfortunate as to be unable to give light on subjects similarly treated of and easily understood in other places. We think you will admit neither of these: not the first, because the men who framed our Maryland statutes, and the men who framed the British statutes, on and from which many of the Maryland are drawn, were men whose ability none will gainsay; nor the other, because the decisions of our courts will compare favorably with any in the Union. If, then, the fault lies neither in the law-makers nor in the expounders of the law, it must be in the law itself, which is not only the case here, but everywhere, and always unsettled and uncertain until time and interpretation make certain and give to it stability. If we have been fifty years or more under our present system of law, and are still in the dark, what a dreary prospect we have for the next fifty to come if we adopt the new code, which is likely to consume not only fifty years is accounting it. but which in one short section sweeps we have been fitty years or more under our present system of law, and are still in the dark, what a dreary prospect we have for the next fifty to come if we adopt the new code, which is likely to consume not only fifty years in expounding it, but which in one short section sweeps off the work of fifty years past! Law, you will admit, is a thing of slow growth, and has in our past history been very cautiously handled by men of the first class of ability, because of the vast 'influence it exerts on human society, especially such as ours, where it is the only master, and where, when doubtful and untried, it acts most injuriously. We confess that in these late days some of our States have been overturning their old landmarks; but with what improvement perhaps some of the dark lists of crime and disorder can explain which are meeting our eyes in the daily prints. We desire to see no such improvements in this District, and hope you will not add your influence to sweep away our present system because there may be some things which need alteration, but which can be done singly and deliberately by Congress.

"A DISTRICT DEMOCRAT."

NOVEMBER 29, 1857.

THE SLAVE TRADE. The Scourge, paddle-wheel steamsloop, arrived t Spithead, England, the 14th ult., from the Cape of Good Hope and West Coast of Africa stations She reports the slave-trade becoming quite brisk on the coast of Africa. Her Majesty's screw steamsloop Alecto has captured four slavers lately, one with a small quantity of specie on board for the purchase of cargo. Her Majesty's sloop Sappho had driven ne slaver on shore and rescued 350 slaves; about 150 more were reported to be drowned and missing. The slaver was afterwards burnt as she lay on the

SENATOR HAMMOND.

Three ballots were taken by the general assembly of South Carolina for United States senator, to fil the vacancy occasioned by the death of the lamented Butler. On the third ballot Gen. Hammond was

elected.	The vote stood:	
of Street	wheel despite that you are a light with the	Votes.
	Hammond	
	Pickens	
	All the second contract of the second contrac	

SOUTH CAROLINA. The report of the comptroller general of South Carolina shows that the tax collected for 1857 is sixty-seven thousand and twenty-five dollars and ninety-six cents less than that for 1856. It also states that the dividends received by the State upon the railroad stocks which she owns, and which cost her one million nine hundred and forty-two thousand three hundred dollars, amounted during the last fis cal year to seven thousand seven hundred and eighty-

A DREADFUL SPECTACLE.

five dollars only.

It will be remembered that the Russian line-of-bat tle ship Lefort lately capsized at noonday in the bay different opinions.

of Finland, carrying down twelve hundred persons, of whom nearly four hundred were females. A diver ately descended to the wreck, and referring a writer in the London Times from St. Petersburgh

"Such persons as were on deck at the time were, of course, at once washed away; but the divers found no less than 1,100 corpses in the cabins between decks and in the hold of the vessel, all clinging to some portion of the timbers of the ship or to each other. The horror of this fearful sight appears to have been aggravated by the circumstance that the bodies were already far gone in decomposition, and, with a few exceptions, the eyes were wide open and glaring. The effect of this dreadful spec-tacle on the divers was such that one of them was totally unable for many days to recount the ghastly scenes he had witnessed down in that hive of putrifying corpses, and on his persistent refusal to repeat his visit there, was

THE FROST AND THE SUGAR CROP.

The Baton Rouge (La.) Advocate of the 19th ult. gives a gloomy account of the "effect of the recent cold nights and heavy frosts, succeeded by warm, summer-like weather, equally, if not more seriously

summer-like weather, equally, if not more seriously, damaging" on the sugar crop. It says:

"We were in company yesterday with some five or six of the largest and most intelligent planters of this parish and West Baton Rouge, who gave us the gloomiest report of their prospects. That the crop has been injured 25 per cent. from the causes we have mentioned there seems to be no question whatever.

"On one plantation just below our city the most luxuriant growth of cane we have seen during the year is turning out between 1,000 and 1,200 pounds to the acre. Before the frosts nearly double that yield was calculated upon. Others testified to a like falling off in their calculations. There can be no doubt but the crop will fall far short of what was anticipated two and even one week ago short of what was anticipated two and even one week ago. Letters from the Lafourche have been exhibited to us, which satisfy us that the disaster is not confined to this

GEN. QUITMAN.

The Memphis Appeal of Saturday says: "GEN. JOHN A. QUITMAN.—We learn that this distinguished soldier and statesman, accompanied by two of his daughters, will take Memphis in his route to Washington city. He is expected up on the John Simonds."

Conviction or Math Rossess.—Wm. E. Coleman, a youth of only 14 years, has been convicted at Richmond, Virginia, of stealing from the post office a letter containing \$163. The jury have signed a petition to the President, asking him to pardon the prisoner, who is the only son of a widowed mother. The brothers Daniel and Solomon Lochbaum, arrested some weeks since for a mail robbery in Knox county, Illinois, were arraigned a few days ago in the United States district court at Chicago. They were indicted for embezslement, and were sentenced to ten years' imprisonment in the penitentiary. They, too, are sons of a respectable widow lady.

[Richmond Enquirer.

The New Haven Register says it is a fact that a community of Free Lovers, similar to the one just broken in Sandusky, Ohio, now exists in New Haven county.

COMMERCIAL STATISTICS OF GREECE

The treaty of December 10, 1837, between the United States and Greece stipulates an entire recip rocity in commerce and navigation between the two countries. Notwithstanding the liberal provisions of this treaty, the direct trade between the United States and Greece is inconsiderable, few of our vessels entering any of the ports of the kingdom. The Turk ish, English, French, Austrian, and national flags are those under which the foreign trade of Greece is chiefly conducted, and the relative rank of these flags may be seen from the following statement, based on an average calculation of the trade of the chief port—the Pirceus—for a series of five consecutive years :

Tuscany 14.62 "
Tuscany 7.84 "
Other countries 10.32 "
The census of 1853 shows the population to be 1,043,127, and a late government publication, transmitted to the British board of trade in May last classifies this population according to trades and

Administrators.

Army and navy.

Jommercial officers Ooctors.... Diber professions
 Other professions
 252

 Midwives
 1,300

 Agriculturists and shepherds
 229,259

 Merchants
 6,260

 Town population
 36,691

 Marines
 26,312
 There were in the kingdom, at the commencement

of 1857, 4,500,000 sheep and goats, 120,000 cows. oxen, &c., and 165,000 horses and mules. The principal articles of Grecian produce, with their respective values, are shown in the following tabular statement, compiled from official returns of the Grecian government in 1856 :

Wheat, bushels, 7,499,804 value—
Currants, Venitian, pounds, 60,000,000 ... \$5,000,000
Silk, okes 115,385 — pounds 319,889 ... 1,597,795
Tobacco, okes 2,000,000 — pounds 5,500,000 ... 840,000
Vallonia cantars, (cwt.,) 150,000 ... 180,000 Total value of chief products..... The following tabular statement exhibits the values of imports in and exports from Greece during the years 1851-54.

Imports. Drachmas. Exports. Drachmas 13,481,202 10,402,212 1851.....25,819,702 39,300,904 35,384,417 29,198,850 1852.....24,982,205 1853.....20,209,960 1854.....25,587,690 14,851,202 40,438,89 Tubular statement exhibiting the countries which the above import trade during the four years, a amount assigned to each. Countries.

1,400,940 Tabular statement showing the countries to which the exports were sent during the four years, and the amount assigned to each.

Countries. \$837,325
England \$24,085
United States \$65,170
Egypt and Candia \$77,315 An examination of the leading imports from Great

Britain to Greece for the annual average of the four years from 1851 to 1854 will excite some surprise that the American flag has not engaged more actively in this trade, especially when, as respects navigation dues and commercial privileges, our vessels enjoy an equality with those of Great Britain in the Pirceus and other ports of Greece, while in regard to merchan dise American shippers have the advantage in several of the leading articles. The chief imports from fish, (herring and codfish, mostly from Newfoundand,) silk, crockery, perfumes, paint, powder, and tobacco. In what are denominated colonial products and even in the various manufactures of cotton which find a market in the Pirceus and other ports of Greece to the amount in value annually of two to three millions of dollars, the American captain would always find a ready and profitable market, while there would be but little risk in obtaining freights for other markets or return cargoes for a direct voyage homewards. The quantity of salt fish im ported into Greece is yearly increasing, as this article is coming into large consumption among the people, and is in great demand during their season of lent, immediately before Christmas.

There is no daily or weekly statement of imports and exports published in Greece as in other countries, and their custom-house reports are not considered very reliable media for obtaining accurate information respecting the commercial movements of the kingdom. We know so little, therefore, in reference to the details of the foreign commerce of this country, that we have taken some pains to prepare from various authorities, all official, the following ruling market prices after payment of the customs duties of the leading imports into Greece during the year 1856 :

 Madapolans
 per piece
 33 44

 Calico
 do
 1 56

 Calico printed
 do
 2 16

 Cotton twist
 per bundle
 2 08

 Cost of the state of the Gray cloth. per piece. 1 92
Gray striped. per yard. 7
Load. per cwt 6 40
Sugar. do 13 60
Pepper do 15 40
Alum. do 3 06 Indigo per 23 lbs.
 Cochineal
 d 4 00

 Hides
 per cwt
 41 60

 Coffee
 do
 15 36

 Herring
 per bbl
 10 40

 Coddab
 per lo0 lbs
 5 00

 Saltpetre
 do
 13 76

The trade between Greece and the Ionian islands is very extensive, and is carried on chiefly by small vessels, under the Greek and Ionian flags, of from one to thirty tons burden. They bring passenger as well as merchandise, landed from the Liverpoo steamers at Corfu. This Indirect conveyance, with the cost of reshipment, freights, commissions, &c., augments the prime cost of British imports, a large portion of which is thus introduced into Greece